

DRAFT:JABROSS:ag:mm (2/3/65)

The Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
Deputy Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon

Dear Cy:

As you know, the agreement of 13 March 1963 relating to the National Reconnaissance Program (NRP) provides that CIA will include in its budget presentation to Congressional committees the funds for NRP tasks assigned to the Agency and financed out of NRO resources. From a communication which CIA has received from General Stewart requesting advice about security measures appropriate for Congressional hearings on the National reconnaissance budget, I gather that Dr. McMillan is planning the substantiation of this budget before the Congress. In view of our joint interest in the National Reconnaissance Program, it seems to me that representatives of the Defense Department and CIA should jointly present this budget to the Congressional committees concerned. Last year there was a general discussion of reconnaissance and other sensitive programs with Senator Russell, in which Mr. Hitch and others representing the Defense Department and I and members of the CIA staff participated. This year I hope that this concept of a joint presentation and defense of the reconnaissance program

NRO review(s)

can be extended to all discussions of the subject with the Congress.

Before any such presentation it will be necessary of course to reach agreement on what the budget for the National Reconnaissance Program actually is. I saw this budget for the first time only recently and, while I have not yet had an opportunity to discuss it with you, I believe that the budget reflects a number of issues on which we have not yet reached agreement. These issues include, for example, the funds which should be allocated to certain categories of research and development. Moreover, the budget, as submitted to me, reflects lack of understanding concerning the proper allocation of responsibilities, as between CIA and the Defense Department, for individual projects. This is of course a matter on which I need early clarification in view of my responsibility, as indicated above, for inclusion of NRO programs assigned to CIA in the CIA budgetary presentation to Congress. (I would hope that the need for inclusion of these NRO programs in the CIA presentation could be obviated by agreement on procedures for a joint presentation before the CIA budget hearings are scheduled.)

If you agree with the desirability of a joint presentation, I will ask Mr. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, Executive Director-Comptroller of CIA, who is responsible for arranging the presentation of the CIA

budget to Congress, to discuss with Dr. McMillan arrangements appropriate for hearings on the NRP. I should also appreciate an opportunity for an early discussion of the NRO budget.

Sincerely yours,

John A. McCone
Director

cc: ExDir-Comptroller
DD/S&T
OGC
OCG/LC
D/Security